

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

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SS-15 NSC-05 L-02 DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /108 W

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TO SECSTATE WASH DC 5810

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OECD, EAID, UNGA

SUBJECT: OECD AD HOC MEETING, MARCH 5 - DISCUSSION OF
PREPARATION FOR SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION

1. SUMMARY: AD HOC MEETING WAS FIRST OCCASION FOR OECD COUNTRIES TO CONSULT WITH EACH OTHER IN PREPARATION FOR 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. MOST DELEGATES WERE NOT PREPARED TO DISCUSS WHICH ISSUES MIGHT BE OF INTEREST TO LDC'S AND/OR DC'S AT SESSION, AND SOME CHOSE ONLY TO LISTEN TO WHAT OTHERS HAD TO SAY (NOTABLY NETHERLANDS, SCANS, AND FRANCE). DELEGATES STRESSED DESIRE TO CONSULT WITH EACH OTHER AND TO AVOID CONFRONTATION WITH LDC'S, BUT ALL EXCEPT U.S. STILL TENDED TO THINK IN TERMS OF REACTING TO LDC INITIATIVES RATHER THAN PUTTING FORWARD DC

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PROPOSALS FOR POSSIBLE CONSENSUSES WITH LDC'S. GROUP

DECIDED TO MEET AGAIN BEFORE SECOND SESSION OF PREPARATORY COMMITTEE, AND U.S. DEL URGED THAT DELS BE READY TO DISCUSS POSITIVE PROPOSALS AT THAT TIME. END SUMMARY.

2. U.S. DEL OPENED DISCUSSION BY SUGGESTING BEST PRODUCT OF 7TH SPECIAL SESSION MIGHT BE AGREED GENERAL GUIDELINES IN PROBLEM AREAS WHERE THERE IS OVERALL CONSENSUS FOR WORK. THESE MIGHT BE FOLLOWED UP BY RESOLUTIONS IN 3TH UNGA RECOGNIZING WHAT IS TO BE DONE AND WHERE. U.S. DEL NOTED LONG LIST OF ISSUES LDC'S HAVE ALREADY INDICATED INTEREST IN PURSUING AND ASKED OTHER DELEGATES IF THEY HAD ANY ISSUES IN MIND WHICH THEY FELT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO TAKE UP AT SPECIAL SESSION. U.S. DEL INFORMED GROUP U.S. HAD SINGLED OUT FIVE ISSUES ON WHICH EFFORTS TO FORMULATE INTERNAL USG POSITIONS FOR SPECIAL SESSION HAD JUST BEGUN: (A) COMMODITY TRADE, (B) FOOD, (C) VARIOUS WAYS TO TRANSFER RESOURCES, (D) TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, AND (E) STRUCTURAL REFORM IN THE U.N. SYSTEM.

3. INITIAL DISCUSSION CENTERED ON UNCTAD SYG CORREA'S PROPOSAL THAT NEW COMPREHENSIVE TRADE ORGANIZATION (CTO) REPLACE UNCTAD. CHAIRMAN TEESE EXPLAINED THAT CORREA HAD TOLD HIM HE WANTED NEW ORGANIZATION TO BE AN ACTION-ORIENTED UNCTAD. BELGIAN DEL NOTED THAT MANY LDC'S WOULD WANT NEW ORGANIZATION TO CONCERN ITSELF WITH MORE THAN TRADE TO ASSURE CONTINUATION OF PRESENT UNCTAD FUNCTIONS OF INTEREST TO SOME LDC'S. CANADIAN AND JAPANESE DELS POINTED OUT THAT NOT ALL MEMBERS G-77 WISH TO ESTABLISH CTO, WHICH IS BASICALLY BRAZILIAN IDEA AND UNCTAD SECRETARIAT INITIATIVE. DELEGATES TENDED TO CONCLUDE THAT IT IS MOST LIKELY LDC'S WOULD PUSH AT SPECIAL SESSION FOR DECISION TO ESTABLISH CTO AND FOR OTHER INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES ONLY IF THEY FAILED TO MAKE SATISFACTORY PROGRESS ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES THERE.

4. DELEGATES WERE NOT PREPARED TO DISCUSS ANY OTHER ISSUES. THEIR FOCUS WAS ON RESPONDING TO LDC INITIATIVES AND MANY SAID IT WAS TOO SOON BEFORE UP-COMING SERIES OF U.N. MEETINGS TO KNOW WHICH ISSUES LDC'S WOULD PUSH FOR HARDEST. AS TO TACTICS, ALL AGREED GROUP B COORDINATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WAS DESIRABLE. CANADIAN DEL FELT GROUP B DELS SHOULD BE AS FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO SUPPORT G-77 "MODERATES." HE SAID THIS WOULD REQUIRE A NON-DOCTRINAIRE APPROACH TO PROGRAM OF ACTION BY BOTH DC'S AND LDC'S IN WHICH EACH ISSUE WOULD BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY ON ITS OWN MERITS. U.S., U.K. AND OTHERS AGREED. U.K. DEL NOTED HMG IS CURRENTLY REVIEWING SECTIONS OF DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION TO WHICH IT RESERVED TO SEE

IF MORE FLEXIBLE POSITION POSSIBLE. U.S. DEL SUGGESTED
BEST WAY TO ASSURE COORDINATION WOULD BE TO IDENTIFY
INDIVIDUALS IN CAPITALS WHO COULD FUNCTION AS CENTRAL
CONTACT POINTS ON ALL SPECIAL SESSION ISSUES AND WHO
WOULD BE PRESENT AT IMPORTANT MEETINGS SUCH AS REVIEW
AND APPRAISAL, PREP COM, ECOSOC, AS WELL AS SPECIAL
SESSION ITSELF. DUE TO DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES
BETWEEN MINISTRIES IN SOME MEMBER COUNTRIES, TO FACT
SOME MEMBERS WILL HAVE DIFFERENT REPRESENTATION AT NEW
YORK AND GENEVA MEETINGS, AND BECAUSE GOVERNMENTS HAVE

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NOT YET ADDRESSED THIS PROBLEM, CONTACT POINTS COULD
NOT BE IDENTIFIED. TEESE AGREED TO KEEP CALLING GROUP B

REPS TOGETHER INFORMALLY IN GENEVA AS MEETINGS PROGRESS.

5. DESPITE RATHER MEAGER RESULTS OF THIS MEETING, MANY DELEGATES EXPRESSED DESIRE TO MEET AGAIN AFTER TDB AND UNIDO II AND BEFORE SECOND SESSION OF PREPARATORY COMMITTEE IN JUNE. CHAIRMAN SAID BY THEN ISSUES LIKELY TO BE EMPHASIZED BY LDC'S MIGHT BE BETTER KNOWN. SITUATION RECOUPED SIGNIFICANTLY FOLLOWING DAY BY AGREEMENT TO INCORPORATE PRELIMINARY DRAFT LIST OF SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES IN BRIEF COMMITTEE REPORT (SEE SEPTTEL). AT THAT TIME U.S. DEL URGED OTHERS TO COME PREPARED IN JUNE TO DISCUSS THEIR OWN POSITIVE PROPOSALS ADDRESSING ISSUES OF MUTUAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTEREST TO DC'S AND LDC'S AND NOTED THAT DC'S AS A GROUP WERE STILL ADOPTING A MUCH TOO REACTIVE STANCE. IT WAS GENERALLY AGREED THIS WAS IMPERATIVE IF DC'S WERE TO ENCOURAGE ACCEPTABLE COMPROMISES AT 7TH SPECIAL SESSION, AND THE FIVE PROBLEM AREAS SUGGESTED BY U.S. DEL WERE NOTED AS AREAS WITHIN WHICH TO WORK.

6. COMMENT: PRE-SESSION CONSULTATIONS U.S. DEL WITH ASST. SYG AND STAFF, PROSPECTIVE CHAIRMAN (AUSTRALIA), CANADIAN AND EC COMMISSION DELS INDICATED THEIR ANTICIPATION FOCUS OF MEETING WAS TO BE ON TDB MEETING STARTING MARCH 10 AND SECRETARIAT PAPER. THIS VIEW REFLECTED PAROCHIAL INTEREST OF MOST DELEGATES WHO WERE ACCREDITED TO UNCTAD IN GENEVA. U.S. STATED UNDERSTANDING THAT PRIME PURPOSE WAS UNGA SPECIAL SESSION AND REVIEW AND APPRAISAL. OPENING MEETING ON SPECIAL SESSION MARKED BY LIMITED PARTICIPATION WITH MAIN SPEAKERS REPRESENTING U.S., U.K., CANADA, JAPAN, SWITZERLAND, EC, AUSTRALIA AS CHAIRMAN. LIMITED INTERVENTION BY FRG, BELGIUM, ITALY AND NO PARTICIPATION BY SCANS, DUTCH, FRANCE, AND PORTUGAL. GREECE, TURKEY, SPAIN, IRELAND WERE ABSENT. END COMMENT.
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